REMARKS

Claims 1-58, 60-71, and 73-84 are pending. Claims 1-39 and 73-80 have been allowed, claims 68-71 have been objected to, and claims 40-58 and 81-84 have been rejected. Applicants have canceled claims 59 and 72 and amended claims 40, 45, 54-57, 60, 62-65, and 67-71. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the allowance of the claims. Applicants have also rewritten the objected-to claims 68-70 to be in independent form and to include the language of their base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that claims 68-70 and dependent claim 71 are now in condition for allowance. Claims 60-67 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 69 and are thus also allowable. Applicants have rewritten claims 54-57 in a similar manner after addressing the Examiner's concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as discussed below. Applicants submit that claims 54-57 are also in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 40-53 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on the Chelliah by itself or in combination with another reference. The Examiner has indicated in the Office Action Summary that claims 81-84 have been rejected but does not refer to these claims in the Detailed Action. Applicants assume that the Examiner meant to reject these claims on generally the same grounds as claim 45, from which these claims depend, was rejected.
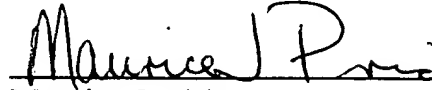
Although applicants disagree with the rejection of these claims, applicants have amended independent claims 40 and 45 as suggested by the Examiner. The amendments to these claims make explicit language that was already implicitly in these claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 40-53, 58, and 81-84 are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 45-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended these claims to address the Examiner's concerns.

Based on the above remarks and amendment, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and its early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:
    Postcard
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    PTO-1083 (+ copy)
    Appendix (Marked-up version of claims)

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Appendix – Claims
Marked to Show Changes

40.   (Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer system to conduct electronic commerce between a user and a vendor, by:

providing a plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use in conducting electronic commerce <u>with the vendor, each electronic commerce context relating to electronic commerce conducted</u> between the user and the vendor;

receiving from the user a selection of one of the plurality of electronic commerce contexts; and

after receiving the selection of the one of the plurality of electronic commerce contexts, conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor in the selected electronic commerce context.

45.   (Amended)   A method for ~~maintaining information relating to~~ conducting electronic commerce with a vendor, the method comprising:

<u>providing a plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use when the user is conducting electronic commerce with the vendor, each electronic commerce context relating to electronic commerce conducted between the user and the vendor;</u>

selecting one of ~~a~~ <u>the</u> plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use in conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor; and

after selecting an electronic commerce context, conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor <u>in the selected electronic commerce context</u>

whereby the conducted electronic commerce is associated with the selected electronic commerce context and whereby the user can have a plurality of electronic commerce contexts with the same vendor.

54.　(Amended)　~~The method of claim 45~~ A method for maintaining information relating to conducting electronic commerce with a vendor, the method comprising:

selecting one of a plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use in conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor; and

after selecting an electronic commerce context, conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor

whereby the conducted electronic commerce is associated with the selected electronic commerce context and whereby the user can have a plurality of electronic commerce contexts with the same vendor wherein a user provides all of the electronic commerce contexts.

55.　(Amended)　~~The method of claim 45~~ A method for maintaining information relating to conducting electronic commerce with a vendor, the method comprising:

selecting one of a plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use in conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor; and

after selecting an electronic commerce context, conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor

whereby the conducted electronic commerce is associated with the selected electronic commerce context and whereby the user can have a plurality of electronic commerce contexts with the same vendor wherein a user provides at least one of the electronic commerce contexts.

56.　(Amended)　~~The method of claim 45~~ A method for maintaining information relating to conducting electronic commerce with a vendor, the method comprising:

selecting one of a plurality of electronic commerce contexts for use in conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor; and

after selecting an electronic commerce context, conducting electronic commerce between the user and the vendor

whereby the conducted electronic commerce is associated with the selected electronic commerce context and whereby the user can have a plurality of electronic commerce contexts with the same vendor wherein only one of the plurality of electronic commerce contexts is initially provided.

60.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 including displaying selection navigation information that indicates each of the plurality of interaction contexts.

62.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 wherein the interacting includes use of a search engine.

63.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 wherein the interacting includes conducting of electronic commerce.

64.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 wherein each of the plurality of interaction contexts has associated information relating to interactions engaged in while that interaction context was selected.

65.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 including displaying viewing navigation information that indicates each of the plurality of interaction contexts.

67.   (Amended) The method of claim 59 69 wherein the user supplies an identifier for each interaction context.

68. (Amended) ~~The method of claim 59~~ A method for interacting with a computer, the method comprising:

    selecting one of a plurality of interaction contexts for a user; and

    after selecting an interaction context, interacting with the user

    whereby the interacting is associated with the selected interaction context and wherein ~~a~~ the user provides all of the interaction contexts.

69. (Amended) ~~The method of claim 59~~ A method for interacting with a computer, the method comprising:

    selecting one of a plurality of interaction contexts for a user; and

    after selecting an interaction context, interacting with the user

    whereby the interacting is associated with the selected interaction context and wherein ~~a~~ the user provides at least one of the interaction contexts.

70. (Amended) ~~The method of claim 59~~ A method for interacting with a computer, the method comprising:

    selecting one of a plurality of interaction contexts for a user; and

    after selecting an interaction context, interacting with the user

    whereby the interacting is associated with the selected interaction context and wherein only one of the plurality of interaction contexts is initially provided.